



CITY OF WHEATLAND

CITY COUNCIL MEETING STAFF REPORT

February 28, 2023

SUBJECT: City Council discussion and consideration of Resolution No. 06-23 certifying the Environmental Impact Report, adopting CEQA Findings and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program; and consideration of Resolution No. 08-23 approving the Wheatland Regional Sewer Pipeline Project.

PREPARED BY: Dane Schilling, City Engineer
Tim Raney, Community Development Director

Recommendation

Staff recommends adoption of Resolution 06-23 and Resolution 08-23.

Background

On July 28, 2020, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 35-20 approving the \$2.6M grant/loan agreement to fund environmental and design efforts for the Wheatland Regional Sewer Pipeline Project (Project) and authorizing the City Manager to sign the agreement.

On November 10, 2020, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 43-20 amending the FY 2020-21 Budget and authorizing the City Manager to proceed with environmental review and engineering design Project which conveys wastewater as far as Highway 65 and Rancho Road.

On April 27, 2021, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 16-21 accepting the Basis of Design Report for the Project which provided parameters for final design efforts and a basis for initiating environmental efforts to satisfy the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Also, October 11, 2022, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 34-22 accepting Amendment No. 1 to the Basis of Design Report and other related actions.

On January 24, 2023, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 04-23 authorizing the submission of an application to the CWSRF program requesting 100% State Revolving Fund (SRF) grant funding for Wheatland's share of total project costs. OPUD will be submitting a similar grant application for its share of cost.

Discussion

The Project consists of an approximately eight-mile-long sewer pipeline alignment located within portions of the City of Wheatland and unincorporated areas within Yuba County. Generally, the pipeline alignment would extend from an existing Malone Pump Station near the City of Wheatland's existing wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) north to a point of connection with Olivehurst Public Utility District's (OPUD) wastewater system in an unincorporated area of the County. See Attachment 1 for a project location map.

The primary goal of the proposed project is to construct the necessary pipelines and pump stations to successfully convey all current and future wastewater into a regional sewer system serving south Yuba County. The proposed pipeline would connect to OPUD's force main (currently under design) near Rancho Road and State Route 65. OPUD's force main would then convey the flow to OPUD's WWTP, where the flows would be treated to a tertiary level and discharged into a tributary to the Feather River. Additionally, three new pump stations would be constructed along the new pipeline to convey all projected flows to the OPUD point of connection and a new Public Works corporation yard would be constructed within the Pump Station 2 site. After construction of the pipeline and pump stations, it is anticipated that the City's existing WWTP would be decommissioned, though the possibility exists for the WWTP to remain in operation for an interim period.

It should be noted that the City of Wheatland is in the process of negotiating interagency agreements with OPUD, including an Interagency Operating Agreement and an Interagency Capacity Purchase Agreement, which would require a separate approval by the Wheatland City Council prior to implementation of the proposed project. The interagency agreements are focused on operational and financial agreements between the City and OPUD, and would not affect any of the physical aspects of the proposed Project.

Environmental Review

City staff prepared an Initial Study for the proposed project in November 2021, which reviewed the potential impacts resulting from the proposed project regarding the following environmental issue areas:

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forest Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Energy
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Systems

- Wildfire

The Initial Study determined that the proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact on the following areas:

- Aesthetics
- Energy
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Wildfire

Subsequently, a Notice of Preparation of an EIR (NOP) was prepared for the proposed project. The NOP identified the proposed project, project entitlements, and the potential environmental impacts that were reviewed in the project-level EIR. The NOP was made available for public review on November 2, 2021, until December 1, 2021. A NOP scoping meeting was held by the City on November 16, 2021 to inform agencies and interested parties regarding the EIR for the proposed project, and to provide agencies and the public with an opportunity to provide comments on the scope of the EIR. The initial Study prepared for the project was included as an attachment to the NOP. The City received the following two comment letters on the NOP:

- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW); and
- Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC)

The Draft EIR addressed the two NOP comment letters and reviewed the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project regarding the following areas:

- Agricultural Resources
- Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning/Population and Housing
- Tribal Cultural Resources

The Draft EIR determined that impacts would be significant and unavoidable regarding the following two issues:

- Conversion of Prime Farmland and Unique Farmland
- Cumulative loss of agricultural land

All three pump stations and Public Works corporation yard are proposed on areas mapped as Grazing Land, which does not fall under the definition of agricultural land according to the California Public Resources Code (PRC). Implementation of the proposed sewer pipeline would involve soil trenching, installation of the pipeline in the trench, and then backfilling soils on top of the pipeline. Should the same soils that were removed be used to backfill the trench, then, following construction, the land where the sewer pipeline has been installed would generally be

returned to pre-project conditions. Accordingly, in such a case, the farmland rating and soil types would not be substantially affected. However, if off-site soils are used to backfill the trench, then the soil types and associated soil conditions along the pipeline would likely change. Furthermore, in order to ensure access to the proposed pipeline for ongoing maintenance and emergency conditions, an easement would be located along the length of the pipeline wherein agricultural operations could not occur. The only portion of the pipeline that has the potential to extend through an agricultural field that is designated as Farmland is located in the northwest region of the project site, where the pipeline would cross Best Slough.

The Draft EIR was made available for public review on December 14, 2022, until January 27, 2023. During the review period, one comment letter was received from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB). The comment letter provided background information regarding applicable regulations and required permits and did not address the adequacy of the EIR. A Final EIR was prepared, which responded to the comment letter and because no substantial modifications were made, recirculation is not necessary (see Attachment 3). The Final EIR was made available for public review on February 17, 2023, until February 27, 2023.

Pursuant to CEQA and as a result of the two significant and unavoidable environmental impacts, Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations have been prepared (see Attachment 2: Exhibit A). The final EIR can be viewed at the link below.

Engineering Design

Project plans and technical specifications were developed between May 2021 and February 2022 in accordance with the Basis of Design Report and Amendment No. 1 to the Basis of Design Report, as well as in consultation with Raney Planning and Management for environmental constraints and in coordination with OPUD's design team.

Engineering plans, technical specifications and estimates (PS&E) for the Project are now substantially complete. The PS&E has been reviewed at the 50% and 90% levels of completion by third-party engineering consultant Willaim Lewis. Another review will be performed by Mr. Lewis on the final bid-ready PS&E documents prior to publicly bidding the Project.

The complete plan set of 356-drawings is hereby incorporated by reference. The first three sheets of the improvement plans showing the project location and index of sheets are included as Attachment 1. A complete set of the project plans can be viewed at City Hall or by following this link: [!\[\]\(c694a3ff3b077d76910920a6a1593ab4_img.jpg\) Wheatland Regional Sewer Design](#)

Upon securing all necessary construction funding, completion of all right-of-way acquisitions, and obtaining all necessary environmental permits for the Project, a final bid-ready version of the PS&E, associated contract documents and instructions to bidders will be prepared and brought forth to the City Council for authorization to advertise the Project for public bidding.

Conclusion

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the attached resolution certifying the EIR for the Wheatland Regional Sewer Project as adequate for addressing the environmental impacts of the proposed project and adopting the CEQA Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations and the MMRP, and approving the Project based on substantially complete improvement plans dated February 23, 2023.

Alternatives

The City Council may choose not to certify the Environmental Impact Report (EIR), adopt the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), or approve the Project.

Fiscal Impact

No fiscal impacts will result from the proposed actions. Subsequent City Council authorization will be required prior to bidding the Project which will identify funding needed for construction.

Attachments

1. Cover Sheet and Drawing Index for Project Plans (first 3 pages)
2. Resolution 06-23 - Certifying and Exhibit A-Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations
3. Final Environmental Impact Report (SCH# 2021110022) (first 4 pages)
4. Resolution 08-23 - Approving the Project

PROJECT PLANS FOR :
**WHEATLAND REGIONAL SEWER
PIPELINE PROJECT**
VOLUME 4 - PIPELINE DRAWINGS

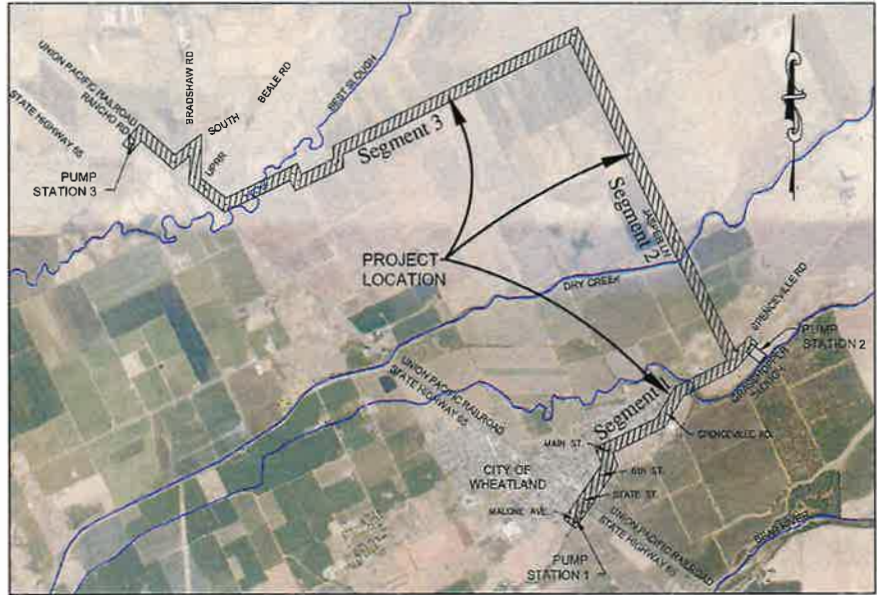
FEBRUARY 2023

95% SUBMITTAL

CITY OF WHEATLAND
YUBA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA



LOCATION MAP
NOT TO SCALE



VICINITY MAP
NOT TO SCALE

GEO/TECHNICAL ENGINEER:
BLACKBURN CONSULTING
DANIEL CONTRERAS
916-375-8706
11521 BLOCKER DRIVE, STE. 110
AUBURN, CA 95603

PUMP STATION DESIGN:
NEXGEN ENGINEERING & CONSULTING
DAN RICH
916-564-6000
1043 NICHOLS CT., STE. 200
ROCKLIN, CA 95765

NOTE:
REFER TO SEPARATE PLAN SET FOR PUMP
STATION DESIGN REGIONAL SEWER PIPELINE
PROJECT - VOLUME 5 - DRAWINGS SEWER PUMP
STATIONS BY NEXGEN UTILITY MANAGEMENT

WFO NUMBER: _____
DIR NUMBER: _____

PRELIMINARY
95% SUBMITTAL
DATE: FEBRUARY 2023

CITY OF WHEATLAND
APPROVED _____ DATE _____
DALE KLEVER
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

COASTLAND | DCCM
COASTLAND | DCCM
11641 Blocker Dr., Ste 170
Auburn, CA 95603
530.888.9028 | coastlandcivil.com

LAURE M. LOHZA - RCE 65951 DATE _____



REVISIONS			
MARK	DESCRIPTION	DATE	APPROVED
▲			
▲			
▲			
▲			

CITY OF WHEATLAND
APPROVED _____ DATE _____
DANIEL H. SCHULING PE
CITY ENGINEER

PROJECT NUMBER
77-4508
DATE: FEBRUARY 2023
DRAWING NUMBER
G.01
SHEET NO.
1 OF 130

WHEATLAND REGIONAL SEWER PIPELINE PROJECT

DRAWING NUMBERING SYSTEM

THE FORCE MAIN DRAWINGS ARE SUBDIVIDED INTO THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES DISTINGUISHED BY THE FOLLOWING PREFIXES TO THEIR NUMBERS.

C-##	GENERAL
F-##	FORCEMAIN TYPICAL
F1.C##	FORCEMAIN TYPICAL DETAIL 1
F2.C##	FORCEMAIN TYPICAL DETAIL 2
F3.C##	FORCEMAIN TYPICAL DETAIL 3
F1.T##	FORCEMAIN TYPICAL SECTIONS, DETAILS
W1.C##	WATER MAIN EXTENSION
F1.EC##	FORCEMAIN SEGMENT 1 EROSION CONTROL
F2.EC##	FORCEMAIN SEGMENT 2 EROSION CONTROL
F3.EC##	FORCEMAIN SEGMENT 3 EROSION CONTROL
F1.LC##	FORCEMAIN EROSION CONTROL DETAILS

SHEET INDEX

VOLUME 4 - PIPELINE DRAWINGS

SHEET NUMBER	DRAWING NUMBER	SHEET TITLE
GENERAL		
1	G01	COVER SHEET
2	G02	SHEET INDEX - 1
3	G03	SHEET INDEX - 2
4	G04	GENERAL NOTES - 1
5	G05	GENERAL NOTES - 2
6	G06	GENERAL NOTES - 3
7	G07	GENERAL NOTES - 4
8	G08	STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS & LEGENDS
9	G09	SURVEY HORIZONTAL CONTROL & BASIS OF BEARINGS
10	G10	SURVEY HORIZONTAL CONTROL - 2
11	G11	SURVEY HORIZONTAL CONTROL - 3
12	G12	SHEET LOCATION KEY MAP
13	G13	STAGING AND STORAGE AREAS
14	G14	HYDRAULIC GRADE LINE - 1
15	G15	HYDRAULIC GRADE LINE - 2
		FORCE MAIN PLAN AND PROFILE, SEGMENT 1
16	F1.C01	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1001+70.23 TO STA 1002+50
17	F1.C02	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1002+50 TO STA 1006+00
18	F1.C03	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1006+00 TO STA 1010+50
19	F1.C04	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1010+50 TO STA 1014+50
20	F1.C05	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1014+50 TO STA 1018+00
21	F1.C06	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1018+00 TO STA 1022+50
22	F1.C07	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1022+50 TO STA 1025+00
23	F1.C08	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1025+00 TO STA 1028+50
24	F1.C09	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1028+50 TO STA 1031+50
25	F1.C10	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1031+50 TO STA 1035+50
26	F1.C11	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1035+50 TO STA 1039+50
27	F1.C12	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1039+50 TO STA 1043+50
28	F1.C13	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1043+50 TO STA 1047+50
29	F1.C14	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1047+50 TO STA 1051+50
30	F1.C15	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1051+50 TO STA 1055+50
31	F1.C16	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1055+50 TO STA 1059+50
32	F1.C17	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1059+50 TO STA 1063+50
33	F1.C18	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1063+50 TO STA 1067+50
34	F1.C19	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1067+50 TO STA 1071+50
35	F1.C20	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1071+50 TO STA 1075+50
36	F1.C21	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1075+50 TO STA 1079+50
37	F1.C22	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1079+50 TO STA 1083+50
38	F1.C23	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1083+50 TO STA 1087+50
39	F1.C24	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1087+50 TO STA 1091+50
40	F1.C25	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 1 STA 1091+50 TO STA 1095+50
		FORCE MAIN PLAN AND PROFILE, SEGMENT 2
41	F2.C01	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 2 STA 2002+79.88 TO STA 2007+50
42	F2.C02	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 2 STA 2007+50 TO STA 2014+50
43	F2.C03	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 2 STA 2014+50 TO STA 2022+50
44	F2.C04	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 2 STA 2022+50 TO STA 2031+50
45	F2.C05	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 2 STA 2031+50 TO STA 2039+50
46	F2.C06	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 2 STA 2039+50 TO STA 2046+00

SHEET NUMBER	DRAWING NUMBER	SHEET TITLE
47	F2.C07	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 2 STA 2046+00 TO STA 2055+00
48	F2.C08	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 2 STA 2055+00 TO STA 2060+50
49	F2.C09	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 2 STA 2060+50 TO STA 2068+50
50	F2.C10	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 2 STA 2068+50 TO STA 2076+50
51	F2.C11	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 2 STA 2076+50 TO STA 2084+50
52	F2.C12	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 2 STA 2084+50 TO STA 2092+50
53	F2.C13	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 2 STA 2092+50 TO STA 2100+50
54	F2.C14	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 2 STA 2100+50 TO STA 2108+50
55	F2.C15	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 2 STA 2108+50 TO STA 2116+50
56	F2.C16	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 2 STA 2116+50 TO STA 2124+50
57	F2.C17	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 2 STA 2124+50 TO STA 2131+50
58	F2.C18	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 2 STA 2131+50 TO STA 2133+68.21
		FORCE MAIN PLAN AND PROFILE, SEGMENT 3
59	F3.C01	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3009+00 TO STA 3007+00
60	F3.C02	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3007+00 TO STA 3015+00
61	F3.C03	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3015+00 TO STA 3023+00
62	F3.C04	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3023+00 TO STA 3030+00
63	F3.C05	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3030+00 TO STA 3034+00
64	F3.C06	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3034+00 TO STA 3041+00
65	F3.C07	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3041+00 TO STA 3047+00
66	F3.C08	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3047+00 TO STA 3055+00
67	F3.C09	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3055+00 TO STA 3063+00
68	F3.C10	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3063+00 TO STA 3071+00
69	F3.C11	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3071+00 TO STA 3079+00
70	F3.C12	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3079+00 TO STA 3087+00
71	F3.C13	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3087+00 TO STA 3091+00
72	F3.C14	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3091+00 TO STA 3099+00
73	F3.C15	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3099+00 TO STA 3107+00
74	F3.C16	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3107+00 TO STA 3108+00
75	F3.C17	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3108+00 TO STA 3113+00
76	F3.C18	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3113+00 TO STA 3121+00
77	F3.C19	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3121+00 TO STA 3124+50
78	F3.C20	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3124+50 TO STA 3133+00
79	F3.C21	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3133+00 TO STA 3137+00
80	F3.C22	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3137+00 TO STA 3145+50
81	F3.C23	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3145+50 TO STA 3153+00
82	F3.C24	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3153+00 TO STA 3161+00
83	F3.C25	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3161+00 TO STA 3168+50
84	F3.C26	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3168+50 TO STA 3173+00
85	F3.C27	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3173+00 TO STA 3181+00
86	F3.C28	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3181+00 TO STA 3185+00
87	F3.C29	PLAN & PROFILE - SEGMENT 3 STA 3185+00 TO STA 3189+09.63
		FORCE MAIN DETAILS
88	F1.T01	FORCEMAIN TYPICAL CROSS SECTIONS - 1
89	F1.T02	FORCEMAIN TYPICAL CROSS SECTIONS - 2
90	F1.T03	FORCEMAIN TYPICAL CROSS SECTIONS - 3
91	F1.T04	FORCEMAIN TYPICAL DETAILS - 1
92	F1.T05	FORCEMAIN TYPICAL DETAILS - 2
93	F1.T06	FORCEMAIN TYPICAL DETAILS - 3
94	F1.T07	FORCEMAIN TYPICAL DETAILS - 4
95	F1.T08	FORCEMAIN TYPICAL DETAILS - 5
96	F1.T09	FORCEMAIN TYPICAL DETAILS - 6

SHEET NUMBER	DRAWING NUMBER	SHEET TITLE
97	F1.T10	FORCEMAIN TYPICAL DETAILS - 7
98	F1.T09	FORCEMAIN CROSSING DETAIL
99	F1.T10	CULVERT REPLACEMENT
		WATER EXTENSION
100	W1.C01	PLAN & PROFILE - WATER 1 STA 50+00 TO STA 53+00
101	W1.C02	PLAN & PROFILE - WATER 1 STA 53+00 TO STA 57+00
102	W1.C03	PLAN & PROFILE - WATER 1 STA 57+00 TO STA 61+00
103	W1.C04	PLAN & PROFILE - WATER 1 STA 61+00 TO STA 65+00
104	W1.C05	PLAN & PROFILE - WATER 1 STA 65+00 TO STA 69+00
105	W1.C06	PLAN & PROFILE - WATER 1 STA 69+00 TO STA 73+00
106	W1.C07	PLAN & PROFILE - WATER 1 STA 73+00 TO STA 77+00
107	W1.C08	PLAN & PROFILE - WATER 1 STA 77+00 TO STA 81+00
108	W1.C09	PLAN & PROFILE - WATER 1 STA 81+00 TO STA 85+00
109	W1.C10	PLAN & PROFILE - WATER 1 STA 85+00 TO STA 89+00
110	W1.C11	PLAN & PROFILE - WATER 1 STA 89+00 TO STA 93+00
		FORCE MAIN EROSION CONTROL
111	F1.EC01	EROSION CONTROL STA 1001+50 - STA 1004+50
112	F1.EC02	EROSION CONTROL STA 1004+50 - STA 1007+00
113	F1.EC03	EROSION CONTROL STA 1007+00 - STA 1011+00
114	F1.EC04	EROSION CONTROL STA 1011+00 - STA 1016+00
115	F1.EC05	EROSION CONTROL STA 1016+00 - STA 1022+50
116	F1.EC06	EROSION CONTROL STA 1022+50 - STA 1028+50
117	F1.EC07	EROSION CONTROL STA 1028+50 - STA 1035+50
118	F1.EC08	EROSION CONTROL STA 1035+50 - STA 1043+50
119	F1.EC09	EROSION CONTROL STA 1043+50 - STA 1051+50
120	F1.EC10	EROSION CONTROL STA 1051+50 - STA 1059+50
121	F1.EC11	EROSION CONTROL STA 1059+50 - STA 1067+50
122	F1.EC12	EROSION CONTROL STA 1067+50 - STA 1075+50
123	F1.EC13	EROSION CONTROL STA 1075+50 - STA 1083+50
124	F1.EC14	EROSION CONTROL STA 1083+50 - STA 1091+50
125	F1.EC15	EROSION CONTROL STA 1091+50 - STA 1100+50
126	F1.EC16	EROSION CONTROL STA 1100+50 - STA 1108+50
127	F1.EC17	EROSION CONTROL STA 1108+50 - STA 1116+50
128	F1.EC18	EROSION CONTROL STA 1116+50 - STA 1124+50
129	F1.EC19	EROSION CONTROL STA 1124+50 - STA 1133+00
130	F1.EC20	EROSION CONTROL STA 1133+00 - STA 1145+50



PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
ANDREW W. CONNER, P.E. 69551, CIVIL
ENGINEER
DATE: 02/21/2023
BY: JAW/MS
CHECKED BY: DMS/VAL

COASTLAND **DECH**
COASTLAND DECH
11841 Blocker Dr. Ste 170
Auburn, CA 95603
530.888.9929 | coastlandcivil.com

CITY OF WHEATLAND
WHEATLAND REGIONAL SEWER
PIPELINE PROJECT
SHEET INDEX - 1

PROJECT NUMBER
77-1508
DATE: FEBRUARY 2023
DRAWING NUMBER
G.02
SHEET NO.
2 OF 130

FOR REDUCED PLANS, THE ORIGINAL SCALE IS IN INCHES

Pub. 1, 104 33 Projects/714528 Worksheet Regional Issue/714530-2 Proj Data Feb 22, 2031 at 05:30 am

SHT DWG	DRAWING
NO. NO.	TITLE
PUMP STATION NO.21	
218 P21.M20	PUMP STATION NO.21 SITE PIPING PLAN
219 P21.M21	PUMP STATION NO.21 SECTIONS AND DETAILS
220 P21.G20	PUMP STATION NO. 21 ELECTRICAL SITE PLAN
221 P21.I001	PUMP STATION NO.21 RTU-021 BACKHAUL ELEVATION
222 P21.I002	PUMP STATION NO. 21 RTU-021 WIRING DIAGRAM
223 P21.I003	PUMP STATION NO. 21 DISCRETE INPUT MODULE-1
224 P21.I004	PUMP STATION NO. 21 DISCRETE OUTPUT MODULE-1
225 P21.I005	PUMP STATION NO. 21 ANALOG INPUT MODULE-1
226 P21.I006	PUMP STATION NO. 21 ANALOG OUTPUT MODULE-1

THE DRAWINGS ARE SUBDIVIDED INTO BROAD TRADE SECTIONS HAVE THE FOLLOWING PREFIXES TO THEIR NUMBERS ACCORD TO CATEGORY AND ARE BOUND IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

- G GENERAL
- C CIVIL
- D DEMOLITION
- LS LANDSCAPE
- S STRUCTURAL
- M MECHANICAL
- E ELECTRICAL
- I INSTRUMENTATION

RESOLUTION NO. 06-23

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHEATLAND CERTIFYING
THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE WHEATLAND REGIONAL
SEWER PIPELINE PROJECT AS ADEQUATE FOR ADDRESSING THE
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT AND ADOPTING THE
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT FINDINGS OF FACT AND
STATEMENT OF OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS AND THE MITIGATION
MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the City of Wheatland Community Development Department is seeking certification of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and adoption of the 90 Percent Improvement Plans for the development of an approximately eight-mile-long sewer pipeline alignment and three pump stations to successfully convey all current and future wastewater into a regional sewer system serving south Yuba County, which is known as the Wheatland Regional Sewer Project ("Project"); and

WHEREAS, the project is a regional sewer infrastructure improvement project that extends through properties within the City of Wheatland and unincorporated Yuba County. Generally, the pipeline alignment would extend from an existing pump station near the City's existing wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) north to a point of connection with the Olivehurst Public Utility District (OPUD) wastewater system in an unincorporated area of the County; and

WHEREAS, the Project consists of the construction of the necessary pipelines and pump stations to successfully convey all current and future wastewater into a regional sewer system serving south Yuba County. The proposed pipeline would connect to OPUD's force main near Rancho Road and State Route 65. OPUD would convey the flow to OPUD's WWTP, where the flows would be treated to a tertiary level and discharged into a tributary to the Feather River. Additionally, three new pump stations would be constructed along the new pipeline to convey all projected flows to the OPUD point of connection and a new Public Works corporation yard would be constructed within the Pump Station 2 site. The project also includes the decommissioning of the City's current WWTP; and

WHEREAS, the City, as lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), has completed the Final Environmental Impact Report ("Final EIR" or "EIR") for the Project; and

WHEREAS, this document contains the City's certification of the EIR, its CEQA findings, and its statement of overriding considerations supporting approval of the Project considered in the EIR. The Final EIR has State Clearinghouse No. 2021110022; and

WHEREAS, a Draft Environmental Impact Report ("Draft EIR") was released for a 45-day public and agency review on December 14, 2022. The Draft EIR assesses the potential environmental effects of implementation of the Project, identifies means to eliminate or reduce potential adverse impacts, and evaluates a reasonable range of alternatives to the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Final EIR comprises the Draft EIR together with one additional volume that includes the comments on the Draft EIR submitted by interested public agencies, organizations, and members of the public; written responses to the environmental issues raised

in those comments; revisions to the text of the Draft EIR reflecting changes made in response to comments and other information; and other minor changes to the text of the Draft EIR. The Final EIR is hereby incorporated in this document by reference.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND DETERMINED by the City of Wheatland City Council determines and certifies as follows:

- A. The foregoing recitals are true and correct.
- B. The EIR has been completed in compliance with CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines.
- C. The EIR was presented to the City Council who reviewed and considered the information contained therein prior to approving the Project. The EIR reflects the City Council's independent judgment and analysis as to the environmental effects of the Project.
- D. The City Council hereby certifies the EIR as adequate. A copy of the certified EIR is on file with the City Clerk.
- E. The City Council hereby adopts the findings concerning significant impacts, mitigation measures and alternatives, as set forth in Exhibit A, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.
- F. The City Council hereby adopts the Statements of Overriding Considerations, as set forth in Exhibit A, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.
- G. The City Council hereby adopts the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), as set forth in Exhibit A, which is attached here to and incorporated herein by reference, in order to ensure that all mitigation measures relied on in the findings are full implemented. The City will use the MMRP to track and ensure compliance with the Project's mitigation measures. The MMRP will remain available for public review during the compliance period.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of City of Wheatland, State of California this 28th day of February 2023, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

Rick West, Mayor

Lisa Thomason, City Clerk

Exhibit A

FINDINGS OF FACT AND STATEMENT OF OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS

WHEATLAND REGIONAL SEWER PROJECT EIR

A. Environmental Determination: EIR

1. The City Council of the City of Wheatland finds as follows:

Based on the initial study conducted for the Wheatland Regional Sewer Project (Project), the City of Wheatland's Community Development Department determined, based upon substantial evidence, that the Project may have a significant effect on the environment and prepared an environmental impact report (EIR) on the Project. The EIR was prepared, noticed, published, circulated, reviewed, and completed in full compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code §21000 *et seq.*) and the *CEQA Guidelines* (14 California Code of Regulations §15000 *et seq.*), as follows:

- a. A Notice of Preparation (NOP) of the Draft EIR was filed with the Office of Planning and Research and each responsible and trustee agency [and each federal agency involved in approving or funding the Project] on November 2, 2021, and was circulated for public comments for a 30-day review period from November 2, 2021 to December 1, 2021.
- b. A Notice of Completion (NOC) and copies of the Draft EIR were distributed to the Office of Planning and Research on December 14, 2022 to those public agencies that have jurisdiction by law with respect to the Project or which exercise authority over resources that may be affected by the Project, and to other interested parties and agencies as required by law. The comments of such persons and agencies were sought.
- c. An official 45-day public comment period for the Draft EIR was established by the Office of Planning and Research. The public comment period began on December 14, 2022 and ended on January 27, 2023.
- d. A Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Draft EIR was posted at the County Clerk's Office, placed in the Marysville Appeal-Democrat, posted on the City's website, and mailed to all interested groups, organizations, and individuals who had previously requested notice in writing on December 14, 2022. The NOA stated that the City of Wheatland had completed the Draft EIR and that copies were available for review or purchase at the City of Wheatland, Community Development Department, 111 C Street, Wheatland, CA 95692. The letter also indicated that the official 45-day public review period for the Draft EIR would end on January 27, 2023.
- e. Following closure of the public comment period, all comments received on the Draft EIR during the comment period, the City's written responses to the significant

environmental points raised in those comments, and any information added to the Draft EIR by the City were assembled to produce the Final EIR.

2. The following information is incorporated by reference and made part of the record supporting these findings:

a. The Draft and Final EIR and all documents relied upon or incorporated by reference include the following:

- Arcadis. *Scope of Work Notification Memo Wheatland, CA –Buried Railcar Incident*. August 2, 2022.
- ASTM International. *ASTM E1527, Standard Practice for Environmental Site Assessments: Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Process*. 2013.
- Blackburn Consulting. *Geotechnical Basis of Design Report, City of Wheatland, Wheatland Regional Sewer Connection Project, Wheatland, CA*. March 2022.
- Cal-Adapt. *Local Climate Change Snapshot for Wheatland, California*. Available at: <https://cal-adapt.org/tools/local-climate-change-snapshot>. Accessed August 2022.
- California Air Resources Board. *2022 Scoping Plan Documents*. Available at: <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/ab-32-climate-change-scoping-plan/2022-scoping-plan-documents>. Accessed July 2022.
- California Air Resources Board. *Airborne Toxic Control Measure to Limit Diesel-Fueled Commercial Motor Vehicle Idling*. Available at: <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/atcm-to-limit-vehicle-idling/about>. Accessed July 2022.
- California Air Resources Board. *Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Health Perspective*. April 2005.
- California Air Resources Board. *In-Use Off-Road Diesel Vehicle Regulation*. December 10, 2014. Available at: <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/use-road-diesel-fueled-fleets-regulation/about>. Accessed July 2022.
- California Air Resources Board. *Reducing Toxic Air Pollutants in California's Communities*. February 6, 2002.
- California Code of Regulations, Title 13, Article 4.8, Chapter 9, Section 2449.
- California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resource Protection, Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program. *A Guide to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program*. 2004.
- California Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology. *A General Location Guide For Ultramafic Rocks in California – Areas More Likely to Contain Naturally Occurring Asbestos*. August 2000.
- California Department of Conservation. *Farmland Mapping & Monitoring Program*. Available at: <https://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp>. Accessed August 2022.
- California Geological Survey, California Department of Conservation. *CGS Seismic Hazards Program: Liquefaction Zones*. Available at: <https://gis.data.ca.gov/datasets/cadoc::cgs-seismic-hazards-program-liquefaction-zones-1/explore?location=35.720844%2C-119.759465%2C8.10>. Accessed June 2022.
- City of Wheatland. *City of Wheatland Climate Action Plan*. October 2018.
- City of Wheatland. *Johnson Rancho and Hop Farm Annexation Environmental Impact Report (SCH# 2008082127)*. June 2011.

- Coastland Civil Engineering. *Basis of Design Report Wheatland Regional Sewer Pipeline Project*. April 23, 2021.
- Coastland Civil Engineering. *Wheatland Regional Sewer Pipeline Project Hydraulic Impact Memorandum*. December 2, 2022.
- ECM Consultants. *Phase I Environmental Site Assessment, Wheatland Regional Wastewater Treatment Project, Wheatland, Yuba County, CA*. August 6, 2021.
- Feather River Air Quality Management District. *CEQA Planning*. Available at: <https://www.fraqmd.org/ceqa-planning>. Accessed August 2022.
- Feather River Air Quality Management District. *Indirect Source Review Guidelines: A Technical Guide to Assess the Air Quality Impact of Land Use Projects Under the California Environmental Quality Act*. June 7, 2010.
- Feather River Air Quality Management District. *Stations and Data*. Available at: <https://www.fraqmd.org/stations-and-data>. Accessed April 2021.
- Health Effects Institute. *Understanding the Health Effects of Ambient Ultrafine Particles*. January 2013.
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. *Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis Summary for Policymakers*. Available at: https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_WGI_SPM.pdf. Accessed July 2022.
- Madrone Ecological Consulting. *Aquatic Resources Delineation Report, Wheatland Regional Sewer Pipeline, Wheatland, Yuba County, California*. August 2022.
- Madrone Ecological Consulting. *Biological Resources Assessment, Wheatland Regional Sewer Pipeline, Wheatland, Yuba County, California*. November 2022.
- Madrone Ecological Consulting. *Special-Status Plant Survey Report, Wheatland Regional Sewer Pipeline, Wheatland, Yuba County, California*. August 2022.
- National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. *In Removing Major Roadblock to State Action on Emissions Standards, U.S. Department of Transportation Advances Biden-Harris Administration's Climate and Jobs Goals*. Available at: <https://www.nhtsa.gov/press-releases/cape-preemption-final-rule>. Accessed March 2022.
- Sacramento Area Council of Governments. *2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy*. November 18, 2019.
- Sacramento Area Council of Governments. *Beale Air Force Base Land Use Compatibility Plan*. Available at: <https://www.sacog.org/post/yuba-county>. Accessed December 2022.
- Sacramento Area Council of Governments. *Draft Regional Housing Needs Allocation Methodology Menu*. September 19, 2019.
- Sacramento Area Council of Governments. *Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA)*. Available at: <https://www.sacog.org/regional-housing-needs-allocation-rhna>. Accessed June 2022.
- Sacramento Area Council of Governments. *Regional Housing Needs Plan 2021-2029*. Adopted March 2020.
- Sacramento Metro Air Quality Management District. *Road Construction Emissions Model, Version 9.0.0*. May 2018.
- Schilling, Dane, Supervising Engineer, Coastland Engineering. Personal communication [email] with Nick Pappani, Vice President, Raney Planning & Management, Inc. September 23, 2022.

- South Coast Air Quality Management District. *Final 2012 Air Quality Management Plan*. December 2012.
 - Spaethe, Sondra, Planning and Engineering Supervisor, Feather River Air Quality Management District. Personal Communication [phone] with Briette Shea, Senior Associate/Air Quality Technician, Raney Planning & Management, Inc. May 21, 2020.
 - Tom Origer & Associates. *Archaeological Survey for the City of Wheatland Regional Sewerline Extension Project*. May 20, 2022.
 - University of California Museum of Paleontology. *UCMP Locality Search*. Available at: <https://ucmpdb.berkeley.edu/loc.html>. Accessed August 2022.
 - U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Resources Conservation Service. *Web Soil Survey*. Available at: <http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>. Accessed August 2022.
 - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. *Final Rule to Revise Existing National GHG Emissions Standards for Passenger Cars and Light Trucks Through Model Year 2026*. Available at: <https://www.epa.gov/regulations-emissions-vehicles-and-engines/final-rule-revise-existing-national-ghg-emissions>. Accessed March 2022.
 - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. *Green Book: Current Nonattainment Counties for All Criteria Pollutants*. Available at: <https://www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/ancl.html>. Accessed April 2021.
 - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES): Industrial Wastewater*. Available at: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes/industrial-wastewater>. Accessed June 2021.
 - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. *Sources of Greenhouse Gas Emissions*. Available at: <https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/sources-greenhouse-gas-emissions>. Accessed August 2022.
 - Yuba County. *Yuba County 2030 General Plan*. Adopted June 7, 2011.
 - Yuba County. *Final Yuba County 2030 General Plan Environmental Impact Report*. May 2011.
- b. City of Wheatland. *City of Wheatland General Plan EIR*. July 2006.
- c. City of Wheatland. *City of Wheatland General Plan*. July 2006.
- d. All records of decision, staff reports, memoranda, maps, exhibits, letters, synopses of meetings, and other documents approved, reviewed, relied upon, or prepared by any City commissions, boards, officials, consultants, or staff relating to the Project.
3. The City Council has final approval authority over the following Project entitlements:
- a. Adoption of the Resolution certifying the EIR, approving the findings of fact and statement of overriding considerations, and adopting the mitigation monitoring plan;
 - b. Approval of 90 Percent Improvement Plans; and

- c. Approval of an Interagency Operating Agreement and an Interagency Capacity Purchase Agreement.
4. With respect to the entitlements over which the City Council has final approval authority and pursuant to *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15090, the City Council certifies that:
 - a. The Final EIR constitutes an adequate, accurate, objective, and complete final environmental impact report in full compliance with the requirements of CEQA and the State *CEQA Guidelines*;
 - b. The Final EIR has been presented to the City Council, and the Council has reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final EIR prior to taking action on the Project;
 - c. The Final EIR reflects the City Council's independent judgment and analysis.
5. The City Council has final approval authority over the Project. In support of its approval, the City Council makes the following findings for each of the significant environmental effects and alternatives of the Project identified in the EIR pursuant to Section 15091 of the *CEQA Guidelines*:
 - a. Significant or Potentially Significant Impacts Mitigated to a Less-Than-Significant Level.

The following significant and potentially significant environmental impacts of the Project, including cumulative impacts, are being mitigated to a less-than-significant level, as set out below. A detailed discussion of each impact is included in the Draft EIR. Pursuant to Section 21081(a)(1) of CEQA and Section 15091(a)(1) of the *CEQA Guidelines*, as to each such impact, the City Council, based on the evidence in the record before it, finds that changes or alterations incorporated into the Project by means of conditions or otherwise, mitigate, avoid or substantially lessen to a level of insignificance these significant or potentially significant environmental impacts of the Project. The basis for the finding for each identified impact is set forth below.

- **Impact 4.2-1: Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan during project construction.** Implementation of the Project would result in construction-related emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) that would exceed the applicable thresholds established by the Feather River Air Quality Management District (FRAQMD). Thus, a significant impact could occur. Additionally, activities associated with the decommissioning of the existing wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) may result in construction-related emissions that would exceed the FRAQMD's thresholds of significance, and a significant impact could occur. Therefore, Mitigation Measure 4.2-1(a) requires use of higher-tier off-road equipment during construction, which would reduce

the NO_x emissions to below the applicable threshold. Mitigation Measure 4.2-1(b) requires a detailed air quality analysis be conducted prior to decommissioning activities to ensure the associated emissions would be reduced, as necessary, to below the FRAQMD thresholds of significance. Implementation of Mitigation Measures 4.1-1(a) and (b) would ensure the impact is less than significant.

- **Impact 4.2-4: Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) affecting a substantial number of people.** All three proposed pump stations would be located within the one-mile screening distance that is recommended by the FRAQMD for sewer pump stations, and as a result, a significant impact may occur. Therefore, Mitigation Measure 4.2-4 requires consultation with FRAQMD to determine if additional odor control devices are required. Implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.2-4 would ensure the impact is less than significant.
- **Impact 4.2-6: Generate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment, or conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of GHGs.** The proposed project is generally consistent with the City's Climate Action Plan (CAP); however, should all sustainability features not be implemented a significant impact would occur. Therefore, Mitigation Measure 4.2-6 requires compliance with the applicable sustainability measures included in the City CAP's Sustainability Checklist. Implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.2-6 would ensure the impact is less than significant.
- **Impact 4.3-1: Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on special-status plant species.** Construction activities may occur in areas where special-status plants have become established and significant impact could occur. Therefore, Mitigation Measure 4.3-1(a) requires a special-status plant survey be conducted for any inaccessible areas not included in the previous survey. Mitigation Measure 4.3-1(b) requires a new round of special-status plant surveys be conducted if construction does not commence by spring of 2024. Mitigation Measure 4.3-1(c) requires a planning-level special-status plant survey to be conducted for areas that would be disturbed through activities associated with the decommissioning of the current WWTP. If special-status plants are located within the area of proposed ground-disturbance, the plants shall be dug up and transplanted into a suitable area. The Mitigation Measures 4.3-1(a) through (c) would ensure that the impact is less than significant.
- **Impact 4.3-2: Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on special-status branchiopods.** The study area contains suitable habitat for vernal pool fairy shrimp and vernal pool tadpole shrimp. Therefore, development of the proposed project could have a significant impact. Mitigation Measure 4.3-2 requires a survey of vernal pool branchiopod habitat. If the species are found during the surveys, the loss of habitat would be mitigated through the preservation of suitable habitat at U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)-approved ratios, whichever

is greater, at an approved mitigation bank. Mitigation Measure 4.3-2 would ensure the impact is less than significant.

- **Impact 4.3-4: Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle.** Decommissioning of the City's existing WWTP could have a substantial adverse effect on Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle (VELB). Therefore, a significant impact could occur. However, Mitigation Measure 4.3-4 requires a protocol-level survey for VELB if decommissioning activities occur within 165 feet of a known elderberry shrub. Appropriate buffers would be established if an occupied shrub is identified. Consultation with the USFWS would be required if an occupied elderberry shrub must be removed. Mitigation Measure 4.3-4 would ensure the impact is less than significant.

- **Impact 4.3-5: Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on special-status fish species.** Without compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction General Permit or a contingency plan to prevent potential impacts related to the inadvertent release of drilling fluids or slurry into materials other than its intended entry and exit points (frac-out), the proposed project could have a significant effect on a special-status wildlife species. However, Mitigation Measures 4.3-5(a) requires implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.7-1 and 4.7-2, discussed below, and 4.3-5(b) requires the development of a Frac-Out Contingency Plan with preventive and responsive measures can be implemented by the contractor. Mitigation measures 4.3-5(a) and (b) would ensure the impact would be less than significant.

Impact 4.3-6: Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on western spadefoot. Development of the proposed sewer pipeline alignment, pump stations, and corporation yard could have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on the western spadefoot, which is toad species that California has designated as a species of special concern. However, implementation of Mitigation Measures 4.3-6(a) requires a survey of suitable habitat for the species within the study area. If the species is observed during the surveys, Mitigation measure 4.4-6(b) requires installation of an anchored, or keyed-in, silt fence to control sediment shall be installed along the impact area. Mitigation Measures 4.3-6(a) and (b) would ensure the impact is less than significant.

- **Impact 4.3-7: Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on western pond turtle.** Development of the proposed

sewer pipeline alignment, pump stations, and corporation yard could have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on the western pond turtle. However, Mitigation Measures 4.3-7(a) requires a survey of the species within the project area, and Mitigation Measure 4.3-7 (b) requires relocation of any individuals and fencing off active nests. Mitigation Measures 4.3-7(a) and (b) would ensure the impact is less than significant.

- **Impact 4.3-8: Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on giant garter snake.** Development of the proposed sewer pipeline alignment, pump stations, and corporation yard could have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on the giant garter snake. However, Mitigation Measure 4.3-8 (a) requires a field investigation for the species within the project site. If construction activities occur within giant garter snake habitat Mitigation Measure 4.3-8(b) requires that: a qualified biologist shall be on-site; construction activities shall be conducted between May 1 and October 1; aquatic habitat shall be dewatered and dried prior to construction; the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and USFWS shall be notified immediately if a giant garter snake is observed; all holes and trenches more than six inches deep near giant garter snake habitat shall be covered with plywood; and non-entangling erosion control material shall be used near giant garter snake habitat. Mitigation Measures 4.3-8(a) and (b) would ensure the impact is less than significant.
- **Impact 4.3-9: Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on burrowing owl.** Development of the proposed sewer pipeline alignment, pump stations, and corporation yard could have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on burrowing owl. However, Mitigation Measures 4.3-9(a) requires a survey for the species and nests within the project area. If burrowing owl is observed, appropriate buffers shall be established. Mitigation Measure 4.3-9(b) requires implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.9(a) if ground-disturbing activities associated with the decommissioning of the existing WWTP are to occur during the nesting season for burrowing owl. Mitigation Measures 4.3-9(a) and (b) would ensure the impact is less than significant.

- **Impact 4.3-10: Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on Swainson's hawk.** Implementation of the project could impact Swainson's Hawk if hawks are present in the study area or along the Bear River during project construction or decommissioning activities, respectively. Therefore, a significant impact could occur. However, Mitigation Measures 4.3-10 (a) and (b) require that, if ground disturbance is proposed during the nesting season of Swainson's hawk, a targeted Swainson's hawk survey shall be conducted. If active Swainson's hawk nests are found within the project vicinity, appropriate buffers around nests shall be established. Mitigation Measures 4.3-10(a) and (b) would ensure the impact is less than significant.
- **Impact 4.3-11: Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on other nesting birds and raptors protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the California Fish and Game Code.** The project area contains suitable nesting habitat for other nesting birds and raptors, and thus construction within the project area during the nesting season could result in significant impact. However, Mitigation Measure 4.3-11(a) requires focused survey for nesting raptors if ground disturbance is proposed during the nesting season. If active nests are found, a buffer shall be established. If an active raptor nest is found within a tree that is proposed for removal, a qualified biologist shall be consulted for additional mitigation. Mitigation Measure 4.3-11(b) requires focused survey for birds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) if ground disturbing activities are proposed during the nesting season. If active special-status species nests/nesting colonies are located during the survey, a qualified biologist shall be consulted to establish a buffer. Mitigation Measure 4.3-11(c) requires the implementation of Mitigation Measures 4.3-11(a) and (b) during the decommissioning of the existing WWTP. Implementation of Mitigation Measures 4.3-11(a) through (c) would ensure the impact is less than significant.
- **Impact 4.3-12: Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on roosting bats.** The proposed project could have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on roosting bats. However, Mitigation Measure 4.3-12(a) requires that, if tree removal is required, a bat habitat assessment shall be conducted. If potentially suitable habitat is observed, Mitigation Measure 4.3-12(b) requires further surveying during the active season to determine the presences of roosting bats. If roosting bats are identified within any trees planned for removal, Mitigation Measure 4.3-12(c) requires the trees be removed outside of pup season and only on days with temperatures in excess of 50 degrees Fahrenheit. If roosting bats are identified within any structures planned for removal, a bat exclusion plan shall be prepared.

Mitigation Measure 4.3-12(d) requires a qualified biologist shall conduct a bat habitat assessment of all potential roosting habitat features at the existing WWTP. If potential roosting habitat is identified, further surveying shall be conducted to determine the presence of roosting bats. If roosting bats are identified within any structures planned for removal, a bat exclusion plan shall be prepared.

Mitigation Measures 4.3-12(a) through (d) would ensure the impact is less than significant.

- **Impact 4.3-13: Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the CDFW or USFWS.** Construction of the three pump stations and the Public Works corporation yard would effect approximately 0.2 acres of valley oak woodland. As part of the decommissioning of the City's existing WWTP, work associated with the infiltration basins, which are below the levee and within the Bear River floodplain, could include grading and site stabilization. Such areas could potentially contain riparian vegetation and/or officially designated sensitive natural communities. Without compliance with the provisions of the California Fish and Game Code (CFGC) Section 1600, et seq., the proposed project could have a significant impact. However, Mitigation Measures 4.3-13(a) and (b) require the implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.3-14(c), which is discussed below. Mitigation Measures 4.3-13 (a) and (b) would ensure the impact is less than significant.
- **Impact 4.3-14: Have a substantial adverse effect on State or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means.** Implementation of the proposed pumpstations and sewer alignment would impact aquatic resources. In addition, because the decommissioning of the existing WWTP would include work adjacent to the Bear River, the City could be required to submit a notification to CDFW consistent with Section 1602 of the CFGC. CDFW would determine whether a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSAA) is necessary. The LSAA would be comprised of the final mitigation measure(s) and condition(s). Furthermore, the City would be required to complete an aquatic resources delineation (ARD) of the infiltration pond area that would be subject to permanent effects to ensure waters of the U.S. and/or State would not be impacted.

For potential impacts to federally or State-protected wetlands, the proposed project would require a Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and an application for a Section 401 certification from the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), and would be subject to all the conditions set forth therein. The project would also be subject to the terms of the LSAA issued under CFGC Section 1600, et seq.

Without compliance with the CWA and CFGC, the proposed project could have a significant impact. However, Mitigation Measure 4.3-14(a) requires that if the final sewer pipeline alignment requires disturbance of any of the areas that were

inaccessible during the previously conducted ARD, the City shall obtain permission to access the areas and map aquatic resources that could be affected during project construction, prior to the commencement of ground-disturbing activities. Mitigation Measure 4.3-14(b) requires that prior to the issuance of grading permits, the City shall apply for a CWA Section 404 permit from the USACE, if needed due to unavoidable impacts on waters of the United States.

Mitigation Measure 4.3-14(c) requires notification to the CDFW pursuant to Section 1600 of the California Fish and Game Code to describe all of the activities associated with the proposed project. Written verification of the Section 1600 LSAA shall be submitted to the City of Wheatland Community Development Department.

Mitigation Measure 4.3-14(d) requires that prior to the commencement of ground-disturbing activities associated with the decommissioning of the existing WWTP, an ARD shall be conducted for the infiltration pond area that would be subject to permanent effects as part of decommissioning activities. If the results of the ARD indicate that decommissioning work would affect waters of the U.S. and/or State, the City of Wheatland shall obtain a CWA Section 404 authorization from the USACE and/or a Section 401 permit from the RWQCB, and comply with the provisions set forth therein. Mitigation Measure 4.3-14(e) further requires the implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.3-14(c). Implementation of Mitigation Measures 4.3-14(a) through (e) would ensure the impact is less than significant.

- **Impact 4.3-15: Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.** Implementation of the proposed project would include activities such as the jack-and-bore process or horizontal directional drilling (HDD), which could result in a frac-out and potentially impact the waterways' ability to serve as a migratory corridor. In addition, without compliance with CFGC Section 1600, et seq., construction activities associated with the proposed project could impact the ability of the riparian woodlands within the study area to serve as a nursery site. Additionally, because the existing WWTP is adjacent to Bear River, activities associated with decommissioning could result in direct impacts relating to erosion, which could impact nursery sites within or adjacent to the Bear River.

Without mitigation measures to prevent impacts to Bear River, Best Slough, and Dry Creek and compliance with CFGC Section 1600, et seq., the proposed project could result in a significant impact.

Mitigation Measures 4.3-15(a) and (b) require implementation of Mitigation Measures 4.3-5(b), 4.3-13(a), 4.7-1, 4.7-2, and 4.3-14(c) discussed above. Implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.3-15(a) and (b) would ensure the impact is less than significant.

- **Impact 4.4-1: Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5.** The project area is near the Jasper House, the location of which may include buried historic-period archaeological site indicators. The possibility exists that minor changes to the proposed alignment may occur during project construction and a significant impact may occur.

Mitigation Measure 4.4-1 requires that if the proposed alignment is changed during construction such that the Jasper House could be affected, additional work such as metal-detecting and excavation could be warranted. If historical resources are found, a qualified archaeologist shall be consulted to determine further treatment. Mitigation Measure 4.4-1 would ensure the impact is less than significant.

- **Impact 4.4-2: Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a unique archaeological resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5, or disturb human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries.** The possibility exists that previously unknown resources could be discovered within the project site during construction activities that disturb the ground. Therefore, a significant impact could occur.

Mitigation Measure 4.4-2 requires a protocol to be implemented if subsurface deposits believed to be cultural or human in origin are discovered during construction. This protocol includes halting work within a 50-foot radius of the discovery and retaining a qualified archeologist to evaluate the discovery. If the discovery is determined to be a cultural resource, the Office of Historic Preservation shall be consulted to determine the appropriate treatment measures. If the find includes human remains, or remains that are potentially human, a qualified professional archaeologist shall be retained, and shall recommend reasonable protection measures sufficient to ensure the discovery is protected. If it is determined that the remains are Native American and not the result of a crime scene, the Coroner shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission, which then shall designate a Native American Most Likely Descendant for the proposed project. Work shall not resume within the no-work radius until the City, through consultation as appropriate, determines that the treatment measures have been

completed to their satisfaction. Mitigation Measure 4.4-2 would ensure the impact is less than significant.

- **Impact 4.5-3: Be located on a geological unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on or off-site lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse, or be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1B of the Uniform Building Code.** Compliance with the design considerations presented in the Geotechnical Basis of Design Report prepared for the proposed project would ensure potential impacts related to expansive soils are reduced to a less-than-significant level; however, because a final geotechnical engineering report has not yet been prepared, the proposed project could result in a significant impact. Additionally, in the event that new structures are proposed for the existing WWTP site subsequent to decommissioning, preparation of a design-level geotechnical report by a State-registered civil engineer would be necessary. Without future geotechnical investigation of site constraints, a significant impact could occur.

Mitigation Measures 4.5-3(a) requires a final geotechnical engineering report be prepared for the proposed project and submitted to the City of Wheatland Engineering Department, City of Wheatland Community Development Department, City of Wheatland Building Department, and Yuba County Building Department. Certification of completion of any requirements of the report shall be required for the proposed project, prior to issuance of building permits. Mitigation Measure 4.5-3(b) requires a final design-level geotechnical report be prepared for the subsurface conditions at the WWTP site. All recommendations set forth in the final design-level geotechnical report shall be incorporated into the design of the project. Mitigation Measures 4.5-3(a) and (b) would ensure the impact is less than significant.

- **Impact 4.5-4: Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature.** Implementation of the proposed project could potentially result in a significant impact to unidentified paleontological resources during installation of the pipeline and other project ground-disturbing activities. Mitigation measure 4.5-2 requires that, if paleontological resources are discovered during ground-disturbing activities, work shall halt within 50 feet of the find and the City of Wheatland Community Development Department shall be notified. A qualified paleontologist shall be retained to inspect the discovery and, if deemed significant under criteria established by the Society for Vertebrate Paleontology, the resource(s) shall be preserved in an accredited and permanent scientific institution. Mitigation Measure 4.5-4 would ensure the impact is less than significant.

- **Impact 4.6-1: Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.** A site-specific analysis would be required to determine whether the actions required to decommission the existing WTP would result a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. Failure to conduct a site-specific analysis prior to decommissioning of the existing WTP could result in a significant impact. However, Mitigation Measure 4.6-1 requires a site-specific analysis to be conducted to ensure that decommissioning activities would not create a significant hazard to the public and, if hazardous materials are detected, the analysis shall include the appropriate mitigation measures. Mitigation Measure 4.6-1 would ensure the impact is less than significant.
- **Impact 4.7-1: Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality during construction.** A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) has not yet been prepared for the proposed project, and thus the proposed project could result in a significant impact. Mitigation Measure 4.7-1 requires the contractor to prepare a SWPPP for review and approval by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, City and County Director of Public Works, and the City and County Engineer. Mitigation Measure 4.7-1 would ensure the impact is less than significant.
- **Impact 4.7-2: Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality during operations.** Because a final Best Management Practices (BMP) and water quality maintenance plan has not been prepared, incorporation of proper source control measures cannot be ensured at this time. Therefore, the proposed project could result in a significant impact. However, Mitigation Measure 4.7-2 requires a detailed BMP and water quality maintenance plan be submitted to both the City and County Director of Public Works, and the City and County Engineer. Mitigation Measure 4.7-2 would ensure the impact is less than significant.
- **Impact 4.7-4: Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would impede or redirect flood flows, or in flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation.** Portions of the proposed project are located within a Special Flood Hazard Zone (SFHA), and therefore could result in the impediment or redirection of flood flows such that on- or off-site structures would be exposed to flood risk. Thus, a significant impact could occur. Mitigation Measure 4.7-4(a) requires the project contractor to submit improvement plans to the City and County Director of Public Works, and the City and County Engineer for review and approval. Mitigation Measure 4.74(b) requires the finished building pad elevation at the Pump Station 1 site to be a minimum of one foot above the 100-year base flood elevation (BFE). Mitigation Measures 4.7-(a) and (b) would ensure the impact is less than significant.

- **Impact 4.9-1: Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074.** Ground-disturbing activities associated with the proposed project could result in a significant impact if unknown buried tribal cultural resources are discovered. However, Mitigation Measure 4.9-1(a) requires all personnel involved in project construction to attend cultural resource awareness training. Mitigation Measure 4.9-1(b) would require that all project improvement plans include language regarding the protocol to be followed if potential cultural resources are discovered during construction. This protocol includes stopping all work with a 100-foot buffer of the discovery, and retention of a qualified cultural resources specialist and Native American Representative from the traditionally and culturally affiliated Native American Tribe(s). Mitigation Measure 4.9-1(c) would require language regarding consultation with the United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria (UAIC) be noted on project Improvement Plans. This includes language regarding noticing the UAIC prior to initiating ground-disturbing activities, tribal monitoring, and the tribal authority. Mitigation Measures 4.9-1(a) through (c) would ensure the impact is less than significant level.

b. Significant or Potentially Significant Impacts Which Could Not Be Fully Mitigated to a Less-Than-Significant Level.

Mitigation measures to mitigate, avoid, or substantially lessen the following significant and potentially significant environmental impacts of the Project, including cumulative impacts, have been identified. However, pursuant to Section 21081(a)(3) of CEQA and Section 15091(a)(3) of the *CEQA Guidelines*, as to each such impact and mitigation measure, the City Council, based on the evidence in the record before it, specifically finds that the mitigation measures are infeasible or ineffective at reducing the impacts to a less-than-significant level. Each impact and mitigation measure and the facts supporting the finding of infeasibility of each mitigation measure are set forth below. A detailed discussion of each impact is included in the Draft EIR. Notwithstanding the disclosure of these impacts and the finding of infeasibility, the City Council elects to approve the Project due to the overriding considerations set forth below in Section e., Statement of Overriding Considerations.

- **Impact 4.1-1: Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use, or involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use.** A portion of the pipeline in the northwest region of the project site has the potential to extend through an active agricultural field that is designated as Prime Farmland and Unique Farmland. In addition, although the proposed pipeline alignment would not result in above-ground development that would permanently convert agricultural land to other uses, the project would prevent the use of land designated as Prime and/or Unique Farmland for agricultural uses within the access easement area. Therefore, a significant impact would occur. Potential mitigation for impacts related to the

conversion of Prime Farmland and Unique Farmland to non-agricultural uses could include purchasing agricultural conservation easements outside the project area. However, this mitigation would not create new agricultural land; rather, it would simply preserve existing agricultural land elsewhere. Consistent with the Wheatland General Plan EIR, feasible mitigation measures do not exist to reduce the impact to a less-than-significant level. Therefore, the impact would remain significant and unavoidable.

- **Impact 4.1-2: Involve changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could cumulatively result in loss of Farmland to non-agricultural use.** As discussed above, a portion of the pipeline has the potential to extend through an active agricultural field that is designated Prime Farmland and Unique Farmland. Although the proposed pipeline alignment would not result in above-ground development that would permanently convert agricultural land to other uses, the project would prevent the use of Farmland for agricultural uses within the access easement area. Therefore, the project's incremental contribution towards the significant cumulative impact related to farmland conversion would be considered cumulatively considerable when viewed in conjunction with other development in the region. Because, as discussed above, feasible mitigation measures do not exist to reduce the impact to a less-than-significant level, the impact would remain cumulatively considerable and significant and unavoidable.

c. Project Alternatives.

The City Council has considered the Project alternatives presented and analyzed in the Draft EIR and presented during the comment period and public hearing process. Some of these alternatives have the potential to avoid or reduce certain significant or potentially significant environmental impacts, as set forth below. The City Council finds, based on specific economic, legal, social, technological, or other considerations, that these alternatives are infeasible. Each alternative and the facts supporting the finding of infeasibility of each alternative are set forth below.

- **No Project/No Build Alternative.** The No Project (No Build) Alternative is defined as the continuation of the existing conditions of the project site. Under this alternative, the City would not connect to the new regional WWTP, and that the City would continue to use the existing WWTP and the associated facilities. The improvement activities associated with the proposed project would not occur and the physical environmental impact of the project would not occur. However, the City's current WWTP has reached the end of its useful life, which means the City will be facing substantial capital costs just to maintain its current capacity and meet water quality regulations. It will be difficult and costly to expand the current WWTP to meet planned City growth. Due to changing regulatory conditions, the existing WWTP would also likely require extensive improvements to meet current and anticipated future water quality protection requirements. Thus, under the No Project (No Build) Alternative, future growth of the City of Wheatland would be

limited to the capacity of the existing WWTP, and the City would not be able to continue to grow according to City plans unless the WWTP is expanded or a feasible alternative to wastewater treatment and disposal is implemented. The No Project (No Build) Alternative is environmentally superior to the proposed project because it will not have any significant and unavoidable impacts on agricultural resources. However, the No Project (No Build) Alternative is considered infeasible for economic, legal and social reasons because the City must accommodate its fair-share of regional housing needs allocations and without additional WWTP capacity, it will not have sufficient infrastructure to approve new development. The No Project (No Build) Alternative also would not meet any of the project objectives and would not fulfill the stated aims of the City's General Plan. For all of these reasons, the City Council rejects the No Project (No Build) Alternative.

- Pipeline Realignment Alternative.** The Pipeline Realignment Alternative would consist of altering the currently planned path of the proposed sewer pipeline in an effort to reduce environmental impacts to the maximum extent possible, particularly impacts to agricultural resources and biological resources. For example, while the currently proposed project would involve a crossing of Best Slough in the northwestern portion of the project site, the Pipeline Realignment Alternative would alter the pipeline's alignment to avoid crossing Best Slough. Although complete avoidance of a crossing of Dry Creek is not possible, the Pipeline Realignment Alternative would involve a pipeline alignment that would minimize the impacts upon the creek to the maximum extent possible. In addition, Pump Station 1 is currently proposed in a floodplain, as well as on the site of an existing drainage ditch identified as an aquatic resource. Under the Pipeline Realignment Alternative, Pump Station 1 would be relocated to an alternative site that is outside of both the floodplain and any sensitive habitat. Similarly, Pump Station 2 would be relocated to an alternative site in order to avoid any impact to the existing vernal pool and seasonal wetland located on the site where Pump Station 2 is currently proposed to be located. Consideration would also be made to place Pump Stations 1 and 2 as far from the nearest sensitive receptor(s) as possible. All other aspects of the Pipeline Realignment Alternative would remain the same as the proposed project, including the future decommissioning of the existing WWTP facilities.

The Pipeline Realignment Alternative would result in fewer impacts to Agricultural Resources, Biological Resources, and Hydrology and Water Quality, and greater impacts to Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, and Tribal Cultural Resources. Because the Pipeline Realignment Alternative would likely still involve the placement of the pipeline within land designated Prime or Unique Farmland, impacts to agricultural resources under the Pipeline Realignment Alternative would remain significant and unavoidable. Thus, the Pipeline Realignment Alternative would not be environmentally superior to the proposed project with all the mitigation measures incorporated.

Because the Pipeline Realignment Alternative would involve the same project components as the proposed project, including a new pipeline, pump stations, corporation yard, and the future decommissioning of the existing WWTP, the Alternative would meet the majority of the Project Objectives. However, the Pipeline Realignment Alternative would involve a longer pipeline than the proposed project in order to reroute the pipeline to avoid sensitive habitat, at an anticipated additional cost of \$10-million. Thus, the ultimate cost to implement the project under the Alternative would likely be significantly more than that of the proposed project, and therefore would render this Alternative financially infeasible. Additionally, the Pipeline Realignment Alternative is financially and legally infeasible because the City does not control all the parcels needed to assemble this alignment, and if the City had to acquire these parcels through eminent domain, the funding that the City is relying on to help pay for this project would expire before the parcels could be obtained. Further, the Pipeline Realignment Alternative is not environmentally superior to the proposed project as mitigated because the Pipeline Realignment Alternative does not eliminate the significant and unavoidable impacts to Agricultural Resources. For all of these reasons, the City Council rejects the Pipeline Realignment Alternative.

- **Aboveground Pipeline Alternative.** The Aboveground Pipeline Alternative would be similar to the proposed project in terms of pipeline alignment, pump station locations, corporation yard, and future decommissioning of the existing WWTP. However, under the Aboveground Pipeline Alternative, the pipeline would not be placed underground. Instead, the majority of the pipeline would be placed directly on top of the ground surface. The pipeline would be well supported using appropriately located footings along the alignment to increase structural integrity. The Alternative would include attachment of the pipeline to the Dry Creek Bridge at the Dry Creek crossing, thereby eliminating the need for HDD at that crossing. All other pipeline crossings proposed as part of the proposed project, such as the undercrossing of Best Slough using HDD, would be similar to the proposed project under the Aboveground Pipeline Alternative.

Because the Aboveground Pipeline Alternative would involve the development of the pipeline above ground, the pipeline would be visible from publicly accessible vantage points in the area. Such views of the pipeline could be considered a substantial degradation of the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings. Thus, impacts related to aesthetics could be greater under the Alternative in comparison to the proposed project. Additionally, impacts related to Hazards and Hazardous Materials would be greater under the Aboveground Pipeline Alternative than under the proposed project because the pipeline carrying untreated sewage would be exposed and could be subject to collisions or attack resulting in spills.

Given that the Aboveground Pipeline Alternative would involve the same project components as the proposed project, including a new pipeline, pump stations, corporation yard, and the future decommissioning of the existing WWTP, the Alternative would meet all Project Objectives.

The Aboveground Pipeline Alternative would result in fewer impacts to Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hydrology and Water Quality, and Tribal Cultural Resources, and similar impacts to Agricultural Resources, and Hazards and Hazardous Materials. Because the Aboveground Pipeline Alternative would still involve the placement of the pipeline within land designated Prime or Unique Farmland, impacts to agricultural resources under the Aboveground Pipeline Alternative would remain significant and unavoidable. The Aboveground Pipeline Alternative is infeasible for social, legal, and financial reasons because it involves running a high-capacity pipeline of untreated wastewater aboveground for approximately 8-miles, which would require extensive design features to ensure no leakage or spillage, would expose the pipeline to damage and sabotage, and which would be visually jarring. Further, the Aboveground Pipeline Alternative is not environmentally superior to the proposed project as mitigated because the Aboveground Pipeline Alternative does not eliminate the significant and unavoidable impacts to Agricultural Resources. For all of these reasons, the City Council rejects the Aboveground Pipeline Alternative.

- **Proposed Project (with Mitigation Measures).** As set forth above, with all the mitigation measures identified above and incorporated into the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, the proposed project's environmental impacts on all impact categories except Agricultural Resources will be mitigated below a level of significance; the only remaining significant and unavoidable impacts of the proposed project, with mitigation, are on Agricultural Resources. As noted above, the No Project (No Build) Alternative likely is environmentally superior to the proposed project. When the "no project" alternative is the environmentally superior alternative, the environmentally superior alternative among the other (action) alternatives must be identified. *CEQA Guidelines* § 15126.6(e)(2). The proposed project with mitigation is the environmentally superior alternative.

d. Statement of Overriding Considerations.

Pursuant to the *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15092, the City Council finds that in approving the Project it has eliminated or substantially lessened all significant and potentially significant effects of the Project on the environment where feasible. The City Council further finds that it has balanced the economic, legal, social, technological, and other benefits of the Project against the remaining unavoidable environmental risks in determining whether to approve the Project, and has determined that those benefits outweigh the unavoidable environmental risks and that those risks are acceptable. The City Council makes this statement of overriding considerations in accordance with Section 15093 of the *CEQA Guidelines* in support of approval of the Project.

The City of Wheatland recognizes that the project would have the following significant and unavoidable impacts on the environment:

- **Impact 4.1-1: Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use, or involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use.**
- **Impact 4.1-2: Involve changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could cumulatively result in loss of Farmland to non-agricultural use.**

The impacts above are outweighed by the benefits offered by the Project. The following specific benefits would be provided by the project:

- The project would provide a financially feasible and viable alternative for wastewater treatment and disposal to the continued use of the existing WWTP sufficient to meet existing and future demands of the City of Wheatland, as well as to comply with State treatment requirements.
- The project would provide long-term sewer stability for the City with an opportunity for future expansion.
- The project would connect the City's wastewater into a regional sewer system for South Yuba County, thereby implementing the SWRCB policy of encouraging consolidation of smaller plants into larger, regional systems.
- The project would provide needed infrastructure to support employment and housing development in the City in order to improve economic development

activities within the City and accommodate the City's fair-share of regional housing needs allocations.

- The project would modernize the City's wastewater operations, equipment, and controls and ensure that the facilities meet anticipated future standards.

6. Upon approval of the Project, the City shall file a Notice of Determination with the County Clerk of Yuba County and, if the Project requires a discretionary approval from any State agency, with the State Office of Planning and Research, pursuant to the provisions of CEQA Section 21152.
7. Pursuant to *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15091(e), the administrative record of these proceedings is located at, and may be obtained from, the City of Wheatland, Community Development Department, 111 C Street, Wheatland, CA 95692. The custodian of these documents and other materials is the City Clerk.

B. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Pursuant to CEQA Section 21081.6 and *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15091, and in support of its approval of the Project, the City Council adopts the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program to require all reasonably feasible mitigation measures to be implemented by means of Project conditions, agreements, or other measures, as set forth in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

<end>

Wheatland Regional Sewer Pipeline Project

SCH# 2021110022

Final Environmental Impact Report

Prepared for
City of Wheatland



February 2023

Prepared by



Wheatland Regional Sewer Pipeline Project Final Environmental Impact Report

SCH# 2021110022

Lead Agency

City of Wheatland
Community Development Department
Planning Division
111 C Street
Wheatland, CA 95692

Tim Raney
Community Development Director

Prepared By

Raney Planning and Management, Inc.
1501 Sports Drive, Suite A
Sacramento, CA 95834
(916) 372-6100

Contact:
Angela DaRosa
Division Manager/Air Quality Specialist

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>CHAPTER</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
1. Introduction and List of Commenters.....	1-1
1.1 Introduction	1-1
1.2 Background.....	1-1
1.3 Purpose of the Final EIR	1-2
1.4 List of Commenters	1-2
1.5 Organization of the Final EIR	1-3
2. Responses to Comments	2-1
2.1 Introduction	2-1
2.2 Responses to Comments	2-1
3. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.....	3-1
3.1 Introduction	3-1
3.2 Compliance Checklist.....	3-1
3.3 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program	3-2



RESOLUTION NO. 08-23

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHEATLAND APPROVING THE
DESIGN OF THE WHEATLAND REGIONAL SEWER PIPELINE PROJECT**

WHEREAS, on July 28, 2020, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 35-20 approving the \$2.6M grant/loan agreement with the Yuba Water Agency (YWA) to fund environmental and design efforts for the Wheatland Regional Sewer Pipeline Project ("Project") and authorizing the City Manager to execute the agreement; and

WHEREAS, on November 10, 2020, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 43-20; 1) Amending the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget to allocate \$2,596,320 from the Sewer Collection Impact Fund (Fund #121) to cover the costs of environmental and engineering design services for the Wheatland Regional Sewer Pipeline Project; and 2) Authorizing the City Manager to proceed with environmental review and engineering design for the Wheatland Regional Sewer Pipeline Project ("Project"); and

WHEREAS, the City engaged its contract planning firm, Raney Planning and Management, and the City's contract engineering firm, Coastland Civil Engineering, to perform the required environmental and engineering design work for the Project; and

WHEREAS, on April 27, 2021, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 16-21 accepting the Basis of Design Report for the Project which provided parameters for final design efforts and a basis for initiating environmental efforts to satisfy the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); and

WHEREAS, October 11, 2022, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 34-22 accepting Amendment No. 1 to the Basis of Design Report and other related actions; and

WHEREAS, engineering plans, specifications and estimates for the Project have reviewed by the City Engineer, reviewed by third party consultant, and are now substantially complete. Engineering plans dated February 2023, are hereby incorporated by reference; and

WHEREAS, on February 28, 2023, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 06-23 certifying the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and adopting the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), and

WHEREAS, upon securing all necessary construction funding, completion of all right-of-way acquisitions, and obtaining all necessary environmental permits for the Project, subsequent City Council authorization will be required prior to bidding the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, ORDERED AND FOUND by the City Council of City of Wheatland, State of California, hereby approves the engineering design of the Wheatland Regional Sewer Pipeline Project as presented to City Council on February 28th, 2023.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of City of Wheatland, State of California this 28th day of February 2023, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

Rick West, Mayor

Lisa Thomason, City Clerk